

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-97 (canceled).

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Claim 98. (new) A method of broadcasting incoming call information from a local customer premises equipment ("CPE") to at least one remote CPE, said method comprising:

receiving incoming call information at said local CPE; and

broadcasting, using said local CPE, a derived call information, which is derived from said received incoming call information, over a communications network to said at least one remote CPE.

Claim 99. (new) The method according to Claim 98 wherein said derived call information includes said incoming call information.

Claim 100. (new). The method according to Claim 99 wherein said incoming call information includes a voice message.

Claim 101. (new). The method according to Claim 100 further comprising taking said local CPE off-hook prior to receiving said voice message.

Claim 102. (new) The method according to Claim 100 wherein said local CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

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Claim 103. (new). The method according to Claim 101 wherein said local CPE receives at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to taking said local CPE off-hook.

Claim 104. (new). The method according to Claim 100 wherein said broadcasting step includes transmitting said voice message over a paging channel.

Claim 105. (new). The method according to Claim 100 wherein said network includes at least one of a VentureNet, a Ethernet, a "blue tooth" network, a X.10 network, a personal computer (PC) network, and a wireless network.

Claim 106. (new). The method according to Claim 100 further comprising said at least one remote CPE delivering said voice message to a speaker device.

Claim 107. (new). The method according to Claim 100 further comprising said local CPE delivering said voice message to a speaker.

Claim 108. (new). The method according to Claim 100 further comprising the step of said at least one remote CPE storing said voice message.

B1 Claim 109. (new). The method according to Claim 100 wherein said voice message is a call announce identification message .

Claim 110. (new). The method according to Claim 109 wherein said call announce identification message is generated by at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server.

Claim 111. (new). The method according to Claim 101 further comprising the step of receiving a data message instructing said local CPE to go off-hook prior to said local CPE going off-hook.

Claim 112 (new) The method according to Claim 99 wherein said incoming call information includes caller data.

Claim 113 (new) The method according to Claim 112 wherein said local CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

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Claim 114. (new). The method according to Claim 112 wherein said local CPE receives at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to receiving said incoming caller data.

Claim 115. (new). The method according to Claim 112 wherein said incoming caller data is one of calling line identification (CLID) data and second call waiting identification (SCWID) data.

Claim 116. (new). The method according to Claim 112 wherein said local CPE receives said incoming caller data from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server.

Claim 117. (new). The method according to Claim 112 wherein said incoming caller data is received as at least one of a frequency shift keying (FSK) signal, a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) format message, a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format message, a Java format message, a Javascript message and/or an Active X format message.

Claim 118. (new) The method according to Claim 112 further comprising determining, at said remote CPE, a corresponding voice message as a function of at least a portion of said caller data.

Claim 119. (new). The method according to Claim 118 further comprising said at least one remote CPE delivering said voice message to a speaker.

Claim 120. (new). The method according to Claim 118 further comprising said at least one remote CPE storing said voice message.

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Claim 121. (new). The method according to Claim 118 wherein said remote CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

Claim 122. (new). The method according to Claim 118 wherein said local CPE receives at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to receiving said incoming caller data.

Claim 123. (new). The method according to Claim 118 wherein said incoming caller data is one of calling line identification (CLID) data and second call waiting identification (SCWID) data.

Claim 124. (new). The method according to Claim 118 wherein said local CPE receives said incoming caller data from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server.

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Claim 125. (new). The method according to Claim 118 wherein said incoming caller data is received as at least one of a frequency shift keying (FSK) signal, a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) format message, a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format message, a Java format message, a Javascript message and/or an Active X format message.

Claim 126. (new). The method according to Claim 125 wherein said determining step includes parsing a number field derived from said FSK signals, and selecting sounds corresponding to said parsed number field.

Claim 127. (new). The method according to Claim 125 wherein said determining step includes matching data derived from said FSK signals to associated voice tags.

Claim 128. (new). The method according to Claim 112 wherein said network includes at least one of a VentureNet, a Ethernet, a "blue tooth" network, a X.10 network, a personal computer (PC) network, and a wireless network.

Claim 129. (new). The method according to Claim 127 further comprising said at least one remote CPE delivering said voice tag to a speaker device.

Claim 130. (new). The method according to Claim 127 further comprising said at least one remote CPE storing said voice tag.

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Claim 131. (new) The method according to Claim 99 wherein said derived call information comprises a corresponding voice message determined, at said local CPE, as a function of at least a portion of said incoming caller information.

Claim 132. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said determining includes parsing a number field derived from said FSK signals, and selecting sounds corresponding to said parsed number field.

Claim 133. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said determining includes matching data derived from said FSK signals to associated voice tags.

Claim 134. (new). The method according to claim 131 wherein said local CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), a digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

Claim 135. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said local CPE receives at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to receiving said incoming caller data.

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Claim 136. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said incoming caller information is one of calling line identification (CLID) data and second call waiting identification (SCWID) data.

Claim 137. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said local CPE receives said incoming caller information from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server.

Claim 138. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said incoming caller information is received as at least one of a frequency shift keying (FSK) signal, a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) format message, a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format message, a Java format message, a Javascript message and/or an Active X format message.

Claim 139. (new). The method according to Claim 132 further comprising said at least one remote CPE delivering said sounds corresponding to said parsed number field to a speaker.

Claim 140. (new). The method according to Claim 132 further comprising said at least one remote CPE storing said sounds corresponding to said parsed number field.

Claim 141. (new). The method according to Claim 133 further comprising said at least one remote CPE delivering said voice tags to a speaker.

B¹ Claim 142. (new). The method according to Claim 133 further comprising said at least one remote CPE storing said voice tags.

Claim 143. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said remote CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

Claim 144. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said local CPE receives at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to receiving said incoming caller information.

Claim 145. (new). The method according to Claim 131 wherein said network includes at least one of a VentureNet, a Ethernet, a "blue tooth" network, a X.10 network, a personal computer (PC) network, and a wireless network.

Claim 146. (new). The method according to Claim 98 further comprising:

receiving an indication of an incoming CPE alerting signal (CAS) tone;

detecting a frequency shift keying (FSK) signal as a result of receiving said indication;

Claim 147. (new) The method according to Claim 146 wherein said indication is said CAS tone.

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Claim 148. (new). The method according to Claim 146 wherein said indication is at least one of an on-hook pulse, a muting and a reduced volume, and said method further comprises the steps of:

detecting the CAS tone using another CPE that is currently off-hook;

generating, for a predetermined duration, said on-hook pulse, muting or reduced volume from the another CPE when the CAS tone is detected by the another CPE; and

detecting, by the on-hook CPE, the on-hook pulse, muting or reduced volume generated by the another CPE.

Claim 149. (new) An apparatus for broadcasting incoming call information from a local customer premises equipment ("CPE") to at least one remote CPE, said apparatus comprising:
means for receiving incoming call information at said local CPE;
means for deriving call information from said received incoming call information, and
means for broadcasting said derived call information over a communications network to said at least one remote CPE.

Claim 150. (new) The apparatus according to Claim 149 wherein said derived call information includes said incoming call information.

Claim 151. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 149 wherein said incoming call information includes a voice message.

B¹ Claim 152. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 further comprising means for taking said local CPE off-hook prior to receiving said voice message.

Claim 153. (new) The apparatus according to Claim 150 wherein said local CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

Claim 154. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 151 wherein said local CPE includes means for receiving at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to taking said local CPE off-hook.

Claim 155. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 wherein said means for broadcasting includes means for transmitting said voice message over a paging channel.

Claim 156. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 wherein said network includes at least one of a VentureNet, a Ethernet, a "blue tooth" network, a X.10 network, a personal computer (PC) network, and a wireless network.

Claim 157. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for delivering said voice message to a speaker.

B¹ Claim 158. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 further comprising means for said local CPE to deliver said voice message to a speaker.

Claim 159. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 further comprising the means for storing said voice message at said remote CPE.

Claim 160. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 150 wherein said voice message is a call announce identification message .

Claim 161. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 160 wherein said call announce identification message is generated by at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server.

Claim 162. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 152 further comprising means for receiving a data message instructing said local CPE to go off-hook prior to said local CPE going off-hook.

Claim 163 (new) The apparatus according to Claim 150 wherein said incoming call information includes caller data.

8 Claim 164 (new) The apparatus according to Claim 163 wherein said local CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

Claim 165. (new). The method according to Claim 163 wherein said local CPE includes means for receiving at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to receiving said incoming caller data.

Claim 166. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 163 wherein said incoming caller data is one of calling line identification (CLID) data and second call waiting identification (SCWID) data.

Claim 167. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 163 wherein said incoming caller data is received by said local CPE from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server.

Claim 168. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 163 wherein said incoming caller data is at least a portion of one of a frequency shift keying (FSK) signal, a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) format message, a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format message, a Java format message, a Javascript message and/or an Active X format message.

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Claim 169. (new) The apparatus according to Claim 163 said remote CPE further comprising means for determining a corresponding voice message as a function of at least a portion of said caller data.

Claim 170. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 169 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for delivering said voice message to a speaker.

Claim 171. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 169 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for storing said voice message.

Claim 172. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 169 wherein said remote CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

Claim 173. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 169 wherein said local CPE includes means for receiving at least one ring tone from at least one of a central office (CO) switch, a voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) server, and an Internet service provider (ISP) server prior to receiving said incoming caller data.

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Claim 174. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 169 wherein said incoming caller data is one of calling line identification (CLID) data and second call waiting identification (SCWID) data.

Claim 175. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 169 wherein said incoming caller data is at least a portion of one of a frequency shift keying (FSK) signal, a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension (MIME) format message, a Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) format message, a Java format message, a Javascript message and/or an Active X format message.

Claim 176. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 175 wherein said means for determining a corresponding voice message includes means for parsing a number field derived from said FSK signals, and selecting sounds corresponding to said parsed number field.

Claim 177. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 175 wherein said means for determining includes means for matching data derived from said FSK signals to associated voice tags.

Claim 178. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 170 wherein said network includes at least one of a VentureNet, a Ethernet, a "blue tooth" network, a X.10 network, a personal computer (PC) network, and a wireless network.

B | Claim 179. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 177 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for delivering said voice tag to a speaker device.

Claim 180. (new). The method according to Claim 177 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for storing said voice tag.

Claim 181. (new) The apparatus according to Claim 149 wherein said means for deriving call information comprises means for determining a corresponding voice message as a function of at least a portion of said incoming caller information.

Claim 182. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 181 wherein said means for determining includes means for parsing a number field derived from said FSK signals, and selecting sounds corresponding to said parsed number field.

Claim 183. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 181 wherein said means for determining includes means for matching data derived from said FSK signals to associated voice tags.

Claim 184. (new). The apparatus according to claim 181 wherein said local CPE is at least one of a telephone set, a telephone answering device (TAD), a digital telephone answering device (DTAD), and a voice mail device.

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Claim 185. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 181 wherein said incoming caller information is one of calling line identification (CLID) data and second call waiting identification (SCWID) data.

Claim 186. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 182 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for delivering said sounds corresponding to said parsed number field to a speaker.

Claim 187. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 182 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for storing said sounds corresponding to said parsed number field.

Claim 188. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 183 further comprising said at least one remote CPE including means for delivering said voice tags to a speaker.

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Claim 189. (new). The apparatus according to Claim 183 further comprising said at least one
remote CPE including means for storing said voice tags.
